

BIDS ARE OPENED.

Three Park Commissioners Go Ahead with the Speedway.

Mr. Dana Protests, but His Colleagues Are Headless.

A Lively Session at the Board Meeting To-Day.

Park Commissioners Tappen, Straus and Claussen, despite public opposition and the protest of the city engineer, Mr. Dana, against the one sidewalk plan for the Harlem Speedway, opened the bids this morning and proceeded with the work of awarding the contract for the construction of the driveway on the objectionable plan.

The Commissioners had an exciting ten minutes' session, when President Tappen offered a resolution that the board proceed with the opening of the bids.

Mr. Dana protested on the ground that the clause in the contract providing that payment for the improvement shall be made in a lump sum instead of installments was prejudicial to small contractors, who were prevented from bidding.

Commissioner Claussen scored Mr. Dana for absenting himself from meetings so that the bids could not be awarded.

"It is not fair for you to attempt to defeat this work at the last moment," he said.

There was a tinge of passion in the voice of Commissioner Straus as he turned to the reporters and said:

"If these bids are rejected it means six weeks' delay. Do you hear that?" he shouted.

"The newspapers don't seem to understand that. I don't care if the people want twenty sidewalks. They can have them. I want to provide work for the unemployed at once."

Before the bids were opened, Isaac A. Hopper, one of the bidders, said he believed that Mr. Dana's objections were well founded.

He wanted to withdraw his bid, Messrs. Straus and Claussen were willing to give back, but President Tappen ruled that it would be illegal to do so.

"Oh," remarked Mr. Straus, "I'll bet \$5,000 your bid is \$5,000 wide of the mark."

"I'll take you up," rejoined Hopper. "You can't bulldoze me, sir. Where's your money?"

The contractors present applauded Mr. Hopper's challenge.

Mr. Straus then insisted on his motion to open all of the thirteen bids. Messrs. Tappen, Straus and Claussen voted in the affirmative, and Mr. Dana in the negative.

Mr. Hopper again protested against his bid being opened, but was shut off by Mr. Claussen, who remarked jokingly that he was waiting to see the other bidder for his bid.

The bids were then opened. Mr. Straus, controller of the city, announced that owing to possible legal complications on account of the delay in opening the bids, the controller reserved all rights he had in the matter.

KNOWN ALSO AS HUNT.

Boys' Congressmen Little Said to Have Beaten Other Hotels.

Detective Cavanaugh, of the Gluey House, said that he had seen a man, who, registering at the hotel as Congressman Little, of North Carolina, succeeded in running up a board bill of \$20. He left the hotel last Saturday, since when nothing has been seen of him.

As the clerk of the hotel stated this morning, the man had played one of the most reckless games of impersonation ever perpetrated on the New York public. His chance of escape was very slim, as he was visited while at the Gluey House by several men, while in New York, Mr. Cavanaugh had heard of the supposed Congressman's presence in the city.

The clerk of the hotel said this morning that the luggage the alleged Congressman left behind was not worth its removal to the city.

He also said that Detective Cavanaugh had discovered that the Congressman was known at other hotels in the city as James Hunt, and that all of them were becoming the fact that they had been seen at the hotel, which is a distinguished guest.

MRS. CONCANNON A WITNESS

Denies Her Husband's Charges on Which His Suit Is Based.

The trial of the action of Dr. James J. Concannon, of 312 West Thirty-second street, to have his marriage with his wife, Lillian, annulled, was resumed before Judge Truax, in the Supreme Court, to-day.

Mrs. Concannon was the first witness. She denied in toto her husband's charges that she was in a delicate condition when she married him.

The next witness was Mrs. Julia P. Twist, of Joliet, Ill., where Mrs. Concannon has resided for several months.

Mrs. Twist knew Mrs. Concannon at Cortland, N. Y., before her marriage, and has been her companion more or less since that time.

She swore to the good character of the defendant, and her good reputation in the community in which she has lived.

The case is still on.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY'S LOSS.

Its Great Laboratory, Just Completed, Destroyed by Fire.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., Jan. 24.—The great mechanical laboratory of the Purdue University was burned last evening. The building was begun a year ago, and was dedicated on Friday, Gov. Matthews having accepted it then in the name of the State.

The building covered nearly an acre and a quarter of ground and cost \$100,000. The equipment was new and of the best, including a new passenger locomotive on movable tracks, a number of Westinghouse and Corliss compound and cut-off engines, and a vast collection of scientific apparatus.

The total insurance will not exceed \$40,000. Immediate steps will be taken to rebuild, and in the mean time, the mechanical department will be conducted in other quarters.

Citizens Interfere with a Detective.

Thomas Farrell, twenty-nine, was arrested on Fulton street yesterday afternoon by Detective Dwyer, of the Chinatown station, for stealing a box of soap. The detective was in a close place, and when he arrested Farrell several citizens interfered, and used every effort to prevent his arrest.

Child Falls Two Stories.

Eight-year-old Edward Kelly fell from a second-story window into the back yard at his home, 142 Amsterdam street, early this morning. He sustained a compound fracture of the skull and will probably die.

FOR BISMARCK'S RECEPTION.

Suit of Rooms Prepared at the Emperor's Castle.

Britain's New Navy—General News by Cable.

(By Associated Press.)

BERLIN, Jan. 24.—At the Castle, preparations are being made to receive Prince Bismarck, who will be the guest of Emperor William during his stay in Berlin next week. A suit of rooms in the Castle has already been thrown open and prepared for the use of the ex-Chancellor, and everything possible will be done to make his visit a memorable one.

The newspapers throughout Germany, as a rule, express great satisfaction at the reconciliation between the Emperor and Prince Bismarck, and there is no doubt that this step upon the part of the ruler of Germany will greatly increase his popularity.

In spite of the reconciliation, it is not thought likely that Prince Bismarck desires or would accept being placed in the position of being in any way a power behind the throne in politics. It is understood that the Prince will cordially support the Government, but that anything like direct participation in Government affairs is far from being contemplated by any of the parties concerned.

Chancellor von Caprivi, according to report, will remain Chancellor in fact, and his position will be in no way weakened by the reconciliation between the ex-Chancellor and the Emperor.

REBELS SHORT OF SUPPLIES.

Belief That There Will Be No More Fighting at Rio.

(By Associated Press.)

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 24.—Despatches received here from Rio de Janeiro say that the insurgents are running short of provisions, and that this is one of the reasons which has led Admiral da Gama, as exclusively cabled to the Associated Press yesterday, to enter into negotiations with Rear Admiral Benham, in command of the United States fleet at Rio de Janeiro, looking to a satisfactory settlement of the disputes between the Government and the insurgents.

It is believed here that there will be no further fighting at Rio de Janeiro, that the American Admiral now has the key to the situation, and that he will be successful in arranging matters in a manner satisfactory to both sides.

A sailor on board the Portuguese corvette, Mindello, has committed suicide by shooting himself. The cause is said to have been the sailor's impression that he had been unjustly treated by one of the officers. A court of inquiry will investigate the matter.

BRITAIN'S NEW NAVY.

Coal Endurance and Manoeuvring Ability to Be Features.

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The Admiralty authorities have completed the new ship-building plan calling for the expenditure of £7,000,000, and have placed orders for seven fifty-gun tugs to supercede the sixty-seven ton breech-loaders, which are the principal armament of the existing battleships.

The new scheme of armament is based upon the principle that the next naval war will be a test of manoeuvring skill and that coal endurance will play a prominent part in such tactics.

PLOTS TO KILL A PRINCE.

Many Attempts to End the Days of Ferdinand of Bulgaria.

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Jan. 24.—A despatch from Vienna to The News says that the trial of ex-Lieut. Luka Tashoff, who is charged with the plot to murder Prince Ferdinand, of Bulgaria, while he was attending the funeral of Prince Alexander of Battenberg, will begin on Friday.

Tashoff has given the details of a number of attempts upon Ferdinand's life. He says that a Bulgarian captain, named Tjanoff, received 2,000 roubles to buy bombs at Warsaw, which were taken to Rusechuk. Dimitri Rizoff received 3,000 roubles to buy bombs in Paris.

A Macedonian named Tufekchoff received 1,000 roubles to go from Paris to Marseilles and murder Prince Ferdinand while he was returning from the city.

Another man was offered 200 roubles to organize a band to attack a train and capture Ferdinand.

New Serbian Cabinet Formed.

(By Associated Press.)

BELGRADE, Jan. 24.—The resignation of the Gruica Cabinet has been accepted and a new cabinet has been formed, with M. Simic as Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Cable Deviations.

The American steam ship Valiant has left Calcutta with the Vanderbilt party on board.

Dr. Richard H. Barry, one of the Deputy Secretaries in the county of Cork, and a well-known sportsman and politician, is dead.

The Paris, in Paris, says M. Clemenceau will be in the country of Cork, and a well-known sportsman and politician, is dead.

Princess Victoria of Greece arrived at Darmstadt with her parents. The Grand Duke was met with enthusiasm.

Campaign Meetings To-Night.

Campaign meetings in the Fifteenth Congressional District will be held to-night as follows: Columbia, at 100 West 42nd street, at 8 o'clock; Washington, at 100 West 42nd street, at 8 o'clock; and at 100 West 42nd street, at 8 o'clock.

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MESSING'S 74 DESCENDANTS.

Nearly All of Them Attended His Funeral This Morning.

He Was 97, Wealthy and Remembered Napoleon's Soldiers.

(By Associated Press.)

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ZELL'S WIFE WOULD HIDE HIM.

But Declares She Doesn't Know Where the Defaulter Is.

"Would Like to Burn That Woman, Josie Hoffman."

(By Associated Press.)

Now that the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal Company has discovered that Secretary and Treasurer William T. Zell is a defaulter for thousands, possibly \$200,000, the officials of that corporation are not so energetic as they were forty-eight hours ago in their feverish desire to capture him.

They have made their demand for indemnity upon the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal Company, which furnished a bond of \$200,000 for Zell, and the Coal Company officials now rest calmly and scatter themselves with the reflection that it is the Fidelity Company's business to hunt the thief down.

Comptroller Williams, of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Company, denied himself all reports to-day, and sent out word that he would write out his own report and send them to the papers. He had no report to offer to-day.

Although he left word at his apartment, at 260 West Fifty-seventh street, that no reporters would be allowed to enter, he was not so strict as he seemed. A "Evening World" man, the latter referred Mrs. Zell to a statement published in the "Evening World" in which he said that she knew of her husband's whereabouts and that she might be willing to lead him to his hiding place.

"Watching me, eh?" she exclaimed. "How do you know what I have read, and I'm sure no one would describe me as a defaulter?"

"But I don't know where Mr. Zell is, and if I did, before I'd say a word I'd like to see him to-day," she said.

"I don't believe he went away with any woman," she declared. "I don't believe it is they call Josie Hoffman, and I shall know to-day whether she ran off with him or not. I don't believe she did."

"I think I know," she said. "I came from some one who told me that Mr. Zell was in New York City, and I shall know to-day whether she ran off with him or not. I don't believe she did."

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